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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 15, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TED POE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki, Bishop of Springfield, Illinois, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we come to You in prayer and seek Your blessing on the United States House of Representatives.

Because our vision of Your goodness is clouded by sin, we seek Your light to guide us on our way.

Because we do not always listen as we should to Your commands, help us to hear Your Word.

Because we often fail to think in accord with Your wisdom, we need Your truth to enlighten our minds.

Because Your ways are not our ways, give us prudence and courage to follow Your will.

May we take inspiration from Springfield's most famous citizen, Abraham Lincoln, who reminded us that "a house divided against itself cannot stand." May we heed his call and follow his example.

We ask You, dear God, to grant these prayers and lead us to the glory of Your Kingdom, where You live and reign forever and ever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING BISHOP THOMAS PAPROCKI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor today's guest chaplain, Bishop Thomas Paprocki of Springfield, Illinois. I've known Bishop Paprocki for over 20 years, as he served as auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago before becoming Bishop of Springfield.

The good bishop is also known in other circles only as the "Holy Goalie"—the man who saves souls and goals. Bishop Paprocki and I have played hockey together many times, and it's always a comfort to know I've got the bishop behind me manning the net.

But his heroics on the ice pale in comparison to his service to our community. In these years since joining the priesthood in 1978, he has shown a dedication to helping the poor and disadvantaged. With his DePaul law degree, he set forth to found the Chicago

Legal Clinic to assist these struggling communities.

His work is an inspiration to us all. I am lucky to call the bishop a good friend.

Thank you, Bishop Paprocki, for joining us here today. See you on the ice.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HOUSE REPUBLICANS FIGHTING TO PROTECT AMERICAN JOBS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, with more than 14 million Americans unemployed, the irresponsible agenda of the National Labor Relations Board is destroying more jobs. In April, the NLRB filed a complaint against The Boeing Company for creating thousands of jobs in a right-to-work State, South Carolina.

The Protecting Jobs from Government Interference Act will promote, today, a positive environment for job creators by developing their businesses in a State that offers the best opportunities for job growth. The new law will prohibit the NLRB from dictating where employers can relocate, shut down, or transfer employment.

I am proud of the leadership of the four freshmen from South Carolina making a difference promoting jobs, led by Congressman TIM SCOTT of North Charleston who introduced this legislation, and I'm grateful to be an original cosponsor with Congressman

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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TREY GOWDY of Spartanburg, Congressman JEFF DUNCAN of Laurens, and Congressman MICK MULVANEY of Indian Land.

This legislation will provide the certainty for job creators to invest in the economy and put Americans back to work.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS THREAT TO FUTURE GENERATIONS

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, during our discussion of the Federal debt, we heard a lot of discussion about threats to our children's and our grandchildren's future. What we have not heard enough discussion about is another threat to our children's and our grandchildren's future, and that is the threat of climate change.

We have seen the first bitter taste of this oncoming tsunami of change with 7 inches of rain in 3 hours in Virginia, with wildfires in Texas that have been unprecedented in our Nation's history. And now our current job crisis does not give us the luxury of ignoring this long-term threat to our children's and our grandchildren's future.

I want to alert Members to a thing they can check on right now, the Climate Reality Project, which is something going on until 7 o'clock tonight—climateralityproject.org. If people are interested in what is happening to our country today, around the country and the world, check out climateralityproject.org. It is a bitter taste. Let's keep our eye on that ball as well.

REFUNDABLE CHILD TAX CREDIT

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Last year, illegal immigrants bilked \$4.2 billion from U.S. taxpayers due to a loophole with the refundable child tax credit. According to a new report, this rampant abuse has cost American taxpayers billions. That's just wrong.

It's time to close this loophole. That's why I've reintroduced the commonsense legislation, H.R. 1956, that stops the child tax credit sham.

The bill requires tax filers to provide their Social Security number to receive that benefit. With the dire need to cut government spending, I hope this simple fix gets a serious look as a way to stamp out waste, fraud, and abuse.

If you want to stop illegal immigrants from duping taxpayers for billions of dollars every year by fraudulently claiming this credit, call the

White House at 202-456-1414. Tell them to pass this bill right now. Tell them that H.R. 1956 should be a top priority.

BIPARTISAN APPROACH

(Mr. BARROW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to draw attention to a September 8 Washington Post editorial written by the dean of the House, the honorable JOHN DINGELL, entitled "Congress Needs a Fresh, Bipartisan Approach."

Congressman DINGELL reminds us of a time not too long ago when Members from both sides of the aisle worked together for long hours for months on end to solve the problems of the day. These were times when Members were motivated less by the reward of a good media hit and more by the reward of overcoming the challenges that confronted the Nation.

Today, we face the critical challenge of getting Americans back to work. This isn't a Republican or a Democratic problem, and the fix that will get folks back to work doesn't prefer one side or the other. Americans can no longer afford the political games that consume us now.

I encourage my colleagues to heed the advice of our distinguished colleague. Let's roll up our sleeves and work together to get our economy back on track.

□ 0910

TAX HIKES ON JOB CREATORS

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, last week in this Chamber, the President challenged a joint session of Congress to pass his jobs stimulus bill. He promised the American people that it would be paid for. This week, we learned that it will be 100 percent paid for through tax hikes on job creators.

Pinnacle Asset Integrity Services is a small business engineering firm employing 100 people in the district I represent in Pasadena, Texas. Pinnacle's president told me that the higher taxes proposed by President Obama would not affect his personal salary, but higher taxes would severely restrict the funds available to him to pay employees while maintaining the reserve cash needed for monthly salaries. The result? Layoffs.

Mr. Speaker, tax hikes on job creators like Pinnacle are simply not the solution. Regulatory certainty and reasonable tax rates will do wonders for job creation. I urge my colleagues to stand with the job creators and reject this tax increase.

Let's get America back to work.

PASS JOBS LEGISLATION

(Mr. WALZ of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. In this Chamber, there is a lot of back and forth about who creates jobs and who doesn't. Some have suggested it's not government, only business, or vice versa. It's both.

How about the construction worker who built a Federal highway so businesses can ship their products? That's how we work together.

How about the teacher who works a 14-hour day to educate the next generation of small business owners? That's how we work together.

Tell it to a veteran that's not a real job if he spent 2 years away from his wife and child to protect our democracy and the freedom of business owners to expand their wealth. That's how we work together.

Personally, I don't think I or the American people give a dang who creates the jobs. All that matters is that the jobs are created. Let's get to work for America. We don't have to sit here and set up false choices and pit the worker at a private factory against the teacher who teaches our children. We all have a role to play in getting this country back to work. Let's end the partisanship, work together and pass jobs legislation.

HOLDING OUR MILITARY FAMILIES FISCALLY HOSTAGE

(Mrs. ROBY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. ROBY. Our military families are the heart and soul of our Armed Forces. Recognizing this, tomorrow in Fort Rucker, Alabama, there will be a spouse day. Army husbands and wives will run an obstacle course, fly simulators, and shoot M16s to experience life as an Army soldier.

Military families are a vital part of my district, and it is my great honor to represent them. Recently, I was in Fort Rucker and I was speaking to a soldier, and his expectant wife was sitting next to me. With tears in his eyes, he said, Don't worry about me. I'm okay. Just make sure she's okay.

Unnecessary defense cuts could change our military as we know it today. These cuts will not affect military operations as much as they could weaken viable support for military spouses and their children. Regardless of politics, our military families must continue to have the resources necessary to serve in their support role as military dependents.

LET'S PASS THE AMERICAN JOBS ACT

(Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut asked and was given permission to address